REMARKS

The Examiner's Action dated May 24, 2005, has been received, and its contents carefully noted.

In response to the objection to the drawings and the specification, the specification has been amended to identify the cutout at page 2, line 8, as element "26a". This amendment overcomes the objections both to the drawings and the specification. As a result of this amendment, the specification now consistently uses the reference numeral 24a to refer to the center core and the reference numeral 24b to refer to the cutout in the center core.

It is therefore requested that the objection to the drawings and the specification be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In response to the objection to the Abstract, submitted herewith is a replacement abstract on a separate sheet.

In order to advance prosecution, claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define the contribution of the invention over the prior art, and new claims 6 and 7 defining further features of the invention have been added.

In view of the amendments to claim 1, the rejection of claims 1-3 as unpatentable over Frasi in view of Imahori is respectfully traversed.

In the explanation of the rejection, the examiner acknowledges that the primary reference, Frasi, does not disclose a separate pair of connecting pieces for connecting electrically the coil contact springs with the electromagnetic sound-generating part, or a horizontally extending end of each coil contact spring and an end of each of the lead wires extending from the exciting coil being connected electrically at each of the connecting pieces.

In view of these deficiencies in the primary reference, the examiner relies on the disclosure in the secondary reference of a transducer having coil contact springs that electrically contact, but are not connected to, terminal plates. The contact springs disclosed in the secondary reference are housed in cylindrical concave portions 20b of frame 20.

The rejection is traversed because there is no evidentiary basis for concluding that it would be obvious for one skilled in the art to modify the transducer of Frasi in view of any teaching of Imahori, and for the further reason that even if the reference teachings were combined in the manner suggested in the explanation of the rejection, the novel converter according to the present invention would not be created.

Claim 1 of the present application now defines a converter that includes "a pair of connecting pieces provided outside said base cover for electrically connecting said coil contact springs with said electromagnetic sound-generating part". Support for the recitation that the connecting pieces (11) are provided outside the base cover will be clearly found in Figs. 2-4 of the drawing, and at various points in the specification, for example at page 6, lines 17-19.

The added recitation that the lead wires (6b) extend around an outside end of the base cover is also supported by the drawings, particularly Fig. 4, as well as by the specification, for example at page 7, lines 13-17.

Thus, claim 1 defines a converter having structural features that are not disclosed in either of the applied references.

Specifically, claim 1 now defines "a pair of connecting pieces provided outside said base cover for electrically connecting said coil contact springs with said electromagnetic sound-generating part... said coil contact springs being contained in housings provided on outside portions of the base cover and within an outer peripheral edge of the diaphragm in plan view... an end of each of the lead wires extending from the exciting coil along the diaphragm and around an outside end of the base cover, and said horizontally

extending end of each coil contact spring and the end of each of the lead wires extending from the exciting coil being electrically connected at each of said connecting pieces."

These recitations distinguish over each of the applied references by the fact that neither reference discloses connecting pieces provided outside of a base cover, or contact springs contained in housings provided on outside portions of the base cover, or the electrical connection of both the horizontally extending end of each coil contact spring and the end of each lead wire at the connecting pieces.

In connection with the last-mentioned limitation, it is clear that in the arrangement disclosed by Imahori, springs 40 are in electrical contact with plates 22, but are not electrically connected thereto. It is well understood in the art that an electrical connection requires a bond, or a mechanical force fit, particularly as that term is defined in the present specification.

New claims 6 and 7 provide added limitations that are not disclosed in either of the applied references.

Since claim 1 defines a structure having features that are not disclosed in either reference, there is no basis for the conclusion that the claim would be "obvious" in view of any combination of those teachings.

Accordingly, it is requested that the prior art rejection of record be reconsidered and withdrawn, that claims 1-7 be allowed and that the application be found in allowable condition.

If the above amendment should not now place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to call undersigned counsel to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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